

FLEXIBLE SOURCE WIRE FOR RADIATION TREATMENT OF DISEASES

Abstract of Disclosure

A flexible source wire is provided containing a radioactive source that is capable of maneuvering through a tortuous narrow passage to a treatment site within the body. This source wire includes a thin flexible housing tube, housing therein a flexible backbone wire, both the tube and the wire being constructed from a material exhibiting little or no memory retention when bent. A radioactive source is provided in the proximal end of the thin flexible housing tube. This radioactive source is contained in a capsule abutting the proximal end of the backbone wire all within a thin wall encapsulating material. Both ends of the source wire are welded shut to form a tight seal and rounded to allow ease of movement as it travels through the bends and turns in the body. The housing tube is coated before the loading of the radioactive material with a non-oxidizing agent such as gold.